

AMENDED SET OF CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently Amended) A cement composition comprising 100 parts by weight of a cement and 0.05 to 10 parts by weight of calcium hydroxide particles having an average particle diameter of 3 μm or less as a cement setting accelerator for shortening the initial and final setting times of said cement composition.

4. (Currently Amended) A process for manufacturing a cement composition comprising adding a water slurry of calcium hydroxide particles having an average particle diameter of 3 μm or less as a cement setting accelerator for shortening the initial and final setting times of said cement composition to a cement.

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Previously Presented) The cement composition according to claim 3, wherein said calcium hydroxide particles as said cement setting accelerator are in the form of a slurry.

7. (Previously Presented) The cement composition according to claim 3, wherein said calcium hydroxide particles have an average particle diameter of 2 μm or less.

8. (Previously Presented) The cement composition according to claim 3, wherein said calcium hydroxide particles have an average particle diameter of 1 μm or less.

9. (Previously Presented) The cement composition according to claim 3, wherein 0.1 to 6 parts of weight of said calcium hydroxide particles are present.

10. (Currently Amended) The cement composition according to claim 3, further comprising

5 parts by weight or less of calcium aluminate based upon 100 parts by weight of said cement, ~~wherein any calcium aluminate present in said cement is not included in said 5 parts by weight or less of said calcium aluminate.~~

11. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 4, wherein said calcium hydroxide particles have an average particle diameter of 2 μm or less.

12. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 4, wherein said calcium hydroxide particles have an average particle diameter of 1 μm or less.

13. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 4, wherein 0.05 to 10 parts by weight of calcium hydroxide particles are added to 100 parts by weight of said cement.

14. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 4, wherein 0.1 to 6 parts by weight of calcium hydroxide particles are added to 100 parts by weight of said cement.

15. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 13, wherein 5 parts by weight or less of calcium aluminate based upon 100 parts by weight is further added to said 100 parts by weight of cement, ~~wherein any calcium aluminate already present in said cement is not included in said 5 parts by weight or less of said calcium aluminate.~~